

# What is From Shore to Sea About?

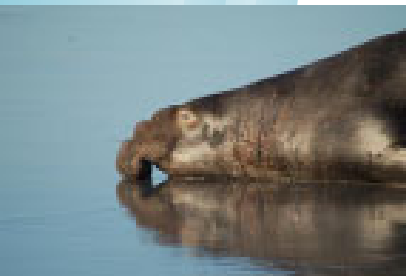
## California's Channel Islands



Inspiration Point on Anacapa Island. Photo credit: Claire Johnson/NOAA



Majestic kelp forests of the Channel Islands. Photo Credit: Claire Johnson/NOAA



Northern Elephant Seal enjoys San Miguel Island. Photo Credit: Robert V. Schwemmer

Bring the excitement of exploration and discovery of the biologically rich and diverse Channel Islands to your classroom with the *From Shore to Sea* curriculum. Contact Claire Johnson at 805.963.3238 ext. 18

The shores of southern California are beckoning you to a season of exploration and discovery! In 2002-2003, a JASON Expedition and curriculum focused on the California Channel Islands and the surrounding sea.

The theme was **monitoring change**, specifically exploring these three main research questions:

- What are the dynamic systems of Earth and space?
- How do these systems affect life?
- What technologies do we use to study these systems, and why?

Why learn about the Channel Islands region?

- This area is home to amazing plant and animal species, some that are found nowhere else on Earth.
- If we learn about the unique resources of this special region, we will realize how important it is for humans to help preserve and protect it.
- These islands hold mysteries yet to be discovered.

### From Shore to Sea Research Stories

In the first story, the **geography and natural history** of the Channel Islands, you'll consider how the islands' location affects their environment. You will also learn how the Channel Islands were formed and how they are geologically connected to the California mainland.

The second story involves **human history and culture** of the Channel Islands. You will explore some of the oldest evidence of human life on the Channel Islands, and be introduced to the history of the Chumash people and their traditions.

In the third story, you will learn about

**watersheds** and how they affect ecosystems on the land and in the sea. You will learn how images from satellites help biologists understand the ecological connections between land and sea, as well as how information is gathered about coastal ecosystems.

What is a **kelp forest** and what role does it play in the Channel Islands ecosystem? You will learn how researchers are studying and exploring this amazing forest ecosystem that exists under the waves. You will also find out how environmental changes are affecting the health of kelp forests.

The appealing **pinnipeds** are the stars of story 5. What's the difference between a seal and a sea lion? How deep do they dive and where do they migrate? You'll learn the answer to these questions and more.

The expedition concludes with a look at **terrestrial and marine conservation** efforts underway in the Channel Islands region, including programs to save the rare Channel Island fox from extinction and to develop marine reserves around the islands to protect the special ecosystems.

**Channel Islands  
National Marine Sanctuary**  
<http://channelislands.noaa.gov>

**Channel Islands National Park**  
<http://www.nps.gov/chis>

**JASON Expeditions**  
<http://www.jasonproject.org>

**Marine Reserves Digital Lab**  
[http://www.jason.org/digital\\_labs/CINMS](http://www.jason.org/digital_labs/CINMS)